

USSN: 09/896,990

Atty. Docket No.: 2001B053

Amendment dated February 24, 2004

Reply to Office Action of December 31, 2003

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A biaxially oriented, multilayer film, comprising:

- a) a core layer having a first surface, a second surface, and a thickness in the range of from 3-20 μm , said core layer comprises a first polymeric material selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene homopolymer, a polypropylene-ethylene copolymer, and combinations thereof;
- b) a first sealant skin layer contiguous to said first surface of said core layer, said first sealant skin layer having a thickness in the range of from 3-20 μm and comprises:
 - a second polymeric material selected from the group consisting of ethylene-propylene-butene-1 terpolymer, ethylene propylene random copolymers, propylene butene copolymer, low density polyethylene polymer, and combinations thereof,
 - a non-migratory slip agent that is present in said first sealant skin layer in the range from 1000-8000 ppm based on the total weight of said first sealant skin layer, said non-migratory slip agent is a particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer having particles whose size are at least 10% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer; and
- c) a second skin layer contiguous to said second surface of said core layer, said second skin layer having a thickness in the range of from ~~1.5-12~~ 1.5-6 μm and comprises a third polymeric material selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, and combinations thereof.

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Claim 16 (previously presented): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 15, wherein said particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer has particles whose size is selected from the group consisting of at least 15% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer, at least 20% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer, and at least 40% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 16 wherein said second skin layer has a thin layer of metal deposited thereon to an optical density of 1.8-2.6, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 15, wherein said thickness of said first sealant skin layer is in the range of 5.5-10 μm .

Claim 19 (previously presented): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 19, wherein said non-migratory slip agent is present in said first sealant skin layer in the range from 1200-6000 ppm based on the total weight of said first sealant skin layer.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 20, wherein said particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer has particles whose size is selected from the group consisting of at least 15% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer, at least 20% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer, and at least 40% greater than the thickness of said first sealant skin layer.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 20 wherein said second skin layer has a thin layer of metal deposited thereon to an optical density of 1.8-2.6, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 20, wherein said particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer has a mean particle size that is in the range of from 7-20 μm .

Claim 23 (previously presented): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 22, wherein said non-migratory slip agent is present in said first sealant skin layer in the range from 1200-6000 ppm based on the total weight of said first sealant skin layer.

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Claim 24 (currently amended): The biaxially oriented, multilayer film of claim 23 wherein said second skin layer has a thin layer of metal deposited thereon to an optical density of 1.8-2.6, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A package including a biaxially oriented three layer film, said film comprising:

- a) a first sealant skin layer comprising a ethylene-propylene-butene-1 terpolymer and a particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer, said first sealant skin layer having a thickness in the range of from 5.5-10 μm , said particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer having a mean particle size in the range of 7-20 μm and is present in said first sealant skin layer in the range of from 1000-8000 ppm based on the total weight of said first sealant skin layer;
- b) a core layer comprising an isotactic polypropylene polymer, said core layer having a first surface, a second surface, and a thickness in the range of from 3-20 μm , said first surface of said core layer contiguous with said first sealant skin layer;
- c) a second skin layer comprising a high density polyethylene polymer, said second skin layer having a thickness in the range of from 1.5-121.5-6 μm and contiguous with said second surface of said core layer.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The package of claim 25, wherein said second skin layer has a thin layer of metal deposited thereon to an optical density of 1.8-2.6, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The package of claim 26, wherein said particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer has particles whose size is selected from the group consisting of greater than 20% of said thickness of said first sealant skin layer, greater than 40% of said thickness of said first sealant skin layer, and greater than 50% of said thickness of said first sealant skin layer.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The package of claim 27, wherein said second skin layer has a thin layer of metal deposited thereon to an optical density of 1.8-2.6, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

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Claim 29 (previously presented): The package of claim 25, wherein said particulate polymethylmethacrylate is present in said first sealant skin layer in the range of from 1200-6000 ppm, and wherein said thickness of said second skin layer is in the range from 1.5-3.5 μm .

Claim 30 (previously presented): The package of claim 29, wherein said second skin layer has a thin layer of metal deposited thereon, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A snack package, said snack package including a biaxially oriented metallized multi-layer film, said multi-layer film comprising:

- a) a core layer comprising an isotactic polypropylene polymer, said core layer having a first surface, a second surface, and a thickness in the range of from 3-20 μm ;
- b) a first sealant skin layer contiguous to said first surface of said core layer, said first sealant skin layer having a thickness in the range of from 5.5-10 μm and comprising:

a particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer having a mean particle size in the range of 3-20 μm and is present in said first sealant skin layer in the range of from 1200-6000 ppm based on the total weight of the first sealant skin layer; and

- c) a metallizable layer comprised of a high density polyethylene polymer, said metallizable layer is contiguous to said second surface of said core layer and having a thickness in the range of from 1.5-12~~1.5-6~~ μm ; and

wherein said metallizable layer having a thin layer of metal deposited thereon to an optical density of 1.8-2.6, said thin layer of metal is comprised of aluminum, zinc, gold or silver.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The snack package of claim 31, wherein said particulate polymethylmethacrylate polymer has particles whose size is selected from the group consisting of greater than 20% of said thickness of said first sealant skin layer, greater than 40% of said thickness of said first sealant skin layer, and greater than 50% of said thickness of said first sealant skin layer.

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Claim 33 (currently amended): The snack package of claim 31, wherein said first sealant skin layer further comprises a ~~fourth polymeric~~ material that is selected from the group consisting of ethylene-propylene-butene-1 terpolymer, ethylene propylene random copolymers, propylene butene copolymer, low density polyethylene, and combinations thereof.